TEXAS-LOUISIANA PETROLEUM RECORD AND

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THE TRUTH AND NOTHING BUT THE TRUTH CONCERNING THE BEAUMONT FIELD AND OTHER SOUTHWESTERN OIL FIELDS.

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GOOD RESULTS AT HUMBLE.

Sharp Well Spurted to the Top of the Derrick, and There Are Excellent Indications That the District Will Be a Very Productive One—Oil From the Lower Sand Is 22 Gravity, Baume, While That From a Shallower Sand in the Granberry-Stalti Well Tests 27—Activity in Drilling Operations Surpasses Batson's Early Days.

Humble continues to occupy the center of the stage, from the viewpoint of the Texas oil operator. Interest during the past week has been concentrated on the Sharp well. This hole is not only considerably deeper than any other at Humble, but has also encountered some very favorable indications which promised a well of large size.

A sand estimated to be about 100 feet in thickness was cased off by a string of six-inch pipe, which extended to a depth of a little over 1,000 feet. It is estimated that the present depth of the well is about 1,250 feet and all the formations which have been penetrated below the six-inch pipe have carried excellent oil and gas indications. On this account the owners decided to test this well. It has proved to be of much smaller capacity than was anticipated.

The well made one vigorous flow on the morning of November 28, throwing the oil as high as the crown pulley and blackening the inside of the derrick quite thoroughly. It did not seem to show any indication of continuing this performance and it was supposed that sand had entered the bottom of the hole. The gate valve, therefore, was closed until the owners could arrive and the proper test be made. This first spurt took place about seven o'clock Monday morning, and before nine o'clock various witnesses, many of whom were greatly enthused, sent telegrams to their friends, advising them to get out to the field as quickly as possible.

Rumors of a 10,000-Barrel Well Caused Excitement.

It is said that at least ten of these messages reached Beaumont, and it is needless to say that with the rumor of a 10,000 or 15,000-barrel gusher at Humble, the Beaumont operators passed an uneasy day. Many of them took the evening train for Houston, arriving there in time to meet the talent returning from Humble on Monday night with the news that the various telegrams and newspaper articles describing the gusher were, to say the least, quite premature.

There were many doubting Thomases among the stay-at-homes at Houston, due to the fact that the Houston Chronicle printed on its first page Monday afternoon a half-tone reproduction of a photograph purporting to be the Sharp well at Humble, but which many thought they recognized as an old picture of a Spindletop gusher. A report, which, according to the Chronicle, came from conservative sources, estimated the production of the well at from 10,000 to 20,000 barrels, with prospects of this figure being exceeded when the hole was freed from mud and slush.

Well's Performance Grossly Exaggerated.

As a matter of fact, the well did not flow sufficient oil to blacken the outside of the derrick, although the spray did reach the crown block, 72 feet above the top of the casing. The gross exaggerations of the well's capacity, coupled with the suspicion that the picture printed by the Chronicle was a fake, will certainly cause future news reports of the situation published by that paper to be received with more or less distrust. The Houston Post, in its account of developments at the Sharp well, printed next morning, made an especially commendable effort to be conservative, giving both versions of the thing—the correct one and the exaggerated one, being careful to credit the latter to the proper sources.

Did Not Respond Readily to Bailing.

Another test of the Sharp well, conducted later in the day, demonstrated that it would not make a second flow, even though thoroughly agitated with a bailer. The bailing was continued throughout the afternoon and a large amount of oil was taken out in this way. To the great surprise of the

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operators, the oil from the Sharp well was found to be of an entirely different character than that obtained from the Granberry-Staiti well, and when tested was found to be of 22 gravity Baume. Its color is very much darker and it seems to be strongly impregnated with sulphur.

There is a possibility that the liner which was inserted below the six-inch piping is obstructing the flow of oil into the well and when everything is in proper order the Sharp well may result in a much larger producer than is at present indicated.

Operators Expect to See Something Doing.

Many conservative operators express their belief that the well will do more than 500 barrels a day in its present condition.

It is needless to say that a 500-barrel well at Humble conclusively demonstrates to most of the operators that there will be something doing in that locality during the winter months and there can be little doubt that a pool of considerable extent will surely be developed near these first wells. From the general topography of the country and the geological conditions which have been disclosed, the field has better prospects of being one of large area than was the case with the Batson or Sour Lake pools, although the capacity of the individual wells may be very much less.

Barrett May Have to Abandon His No. 2 Well.

The pioneer oil well of the Humble field, Barrett No. 2, will probably be abandoned, for the drillers twisted off the drill pipe on November 27, and there seems to be little hopes of being able to remove it. Another derrick has been ordered, and drilling will be commenced immediately by Mr. Barrett, so as to complete his contract, which calls for a well 1,200 feet deep. It is interesting to note that the well being drilled by other operators, about 100 feet from the Barrett well, has already reached a depth of 950 feet, although the drilling crew has been at work but ten days. This is about the depth which Mr. Barrett has reached, after having been drilling nearly eight months. The difficulties which were encountered by him in drilling his first two wells are, of course, greatly lessened at this time, due to the fact that a large amount of high-pressure gas has been released from the sand strata underlying the field. The two Barrett wells had repeated blow-outs of tremendous violence while they were drilling. The first real blow-out which has taken place at Humble since the Higgins gasser made its spectacular performance, occurred in the well known as the Hughes or Moonshine, drilling near the Barrett No. 2, on the morning of November 28. The drillers found it impossible to hold in the gas pressure, with the result that the well forced all the mud out of the hole and discharged gas at an enormous rate for two hours before it was gotten under control.

Gas From Higgins Well Will Be Sold for Fuel.

The Higgins gasser is still blowing at a somewhat diminished rate, and H. P. Decker, an experienced Beaumont operator, has leased it and will supply fuel to the drilling rigs just as soon as the well is controlled. In an attempt to harness this gas well Friday, November 28, is was found that the pressure was so great that it endangered the piping, with the result that it was only partly closed in.

For a few minutes it looked as if a Mount Pelee eruption was to take place, for the gas forced itself up through the ground surrounding the well for a distance of 75 to 100 feet. A considerable amount of this gas came up through the slush pit located near the well, throwing the mud and water high in the air. Mr. Decker states that he expected to see an acre or two of ground blown beyond the reach of the land speculators, judging from the exhibition which took place in the slush pit when the gas commenced to blow through it. An inner string of six-inch pipe is being anchored to the gate valves, which will eventually control this Higgins well, and Mr. Decker expected to have the field supplied with gas by December 1. Contracts for fuel for eighteen boilers have already been made.

Fine Oil in the Granberry-Staiti Well.

The first really favorable test made of the wells which have reached an interesting depth took place at the Granberry-Staiti well a few days ago. The bottom joint of drill pipe having been twisted off, it was decided to bail the well with the drill pipe and fishing tools in the hole. This was done, and a considerable quantity of light-gravity oil was brought to the surface. This oil was gathered up by those interested in the various refineries and tests are now being made to determine its commercial value. It is persistently rumored from apparently reliable sources that the oil is of a paraffine base, and this one feature is, of course, of the very greatest importance in determining the value of the oil to the refiners. The samples which were taken from this well on the test referred to showed a gravity of between 27 and 28, Baume, and after the oil had been exposed to the atmosphere for forty-eight hours it still tested 26.7. It is estimated that fully ten or twelve barrels of oil were bailed from the well during the test, and although the well is not in a completed condition, its capacity would probably reach 50 barrels a day under pump.

Beatty Well Not Yet a Producer.

The Beatty well, located a short distance south of the Granberry-Staiti well, has not proved a producer, and at the present time there is considerable difference of opinion as to whether or not Beatty succeeded in properly shutting off the sulphur water above the oil formation. The fine showing of oil which Mr. Beatty encountered when drilling this well would indicate a well of considerable size at this point, but so far the tests have failed to develop oil in quantity. A large flow of sulphur water, however, was found below the point at which his eight-inch casing is now set, and it is quite probable that Mr. Beatty will case this off and drill down to the deeper sands, abandoning all thought of operating for shallower oil.

Scenes of Great Activity.

Derricks have been built at Humble at a rapid rate. On November 29 thirty-eight were up. Machinery is being moved to these locations with all possible haste.

The Houston, East & West Texas Railroad Company has been building sidetracks at Humble station as fast as the material could be supplied, and the large saw mill located near the town has been loaded with orders for derrick material and lumber for buildings.

Already two or three townsite propositions have been fairly launched and an army of men is at work constructing frame structures near the Humble railway station. The development work being carried on but a mile from the railway station insures the town lot purchasers a prospective oil value to their land, in addition to its value for building purposes, and this feature, of course, is being worked to the limit by the town lot salesmen.

It is understood that the principal operators at Humble, including Barrett, Granberry, Staiti, Beatty, Sharp and Hughes, will be honored by having streets in the new town named after them.

It would be difficult to convince the average Texas operator that a well drilled on a town lot located at the corner of Beatty and Sharp Streets would fail to come in a gusher, to say nothing of a location at the corner of Moonshine Avenue and Staiti Street.

Land Sells at High Figures.

During the past two weeks numerous transfers of property have taken

place, the most notable being those of the Landslide Oil Company. This company is made up of a group of experienced operators possessing ample means, and it is estimated that they have purchased at least $75,000 worth of property in the immediate vicinity of the test wells which are being drilled. Some of their holdings have been bought at figures as high as $5,000 per acre, although most of it has been acquired at a very much lower price. So far, the plans of the Landslide Company have not been revealed to the public, but it is quite safe to assume that it will work in close relationship with the Texas Company and its affiliated interests.

The construction of earthen tankage by the Texas Company has been commenced and the first tank of the Higgins and Paraffine Companies is already completed. The United Oil & Refining Company has also purchased a considerable amount of land for tank sites, and within the last few days the J. M. Guffey Petroleum Company has also entered the field as a purchaser of sites for boiler plants, etc. All of the pipe line companies have gone to work securing right of way from the Humble field to their nearest connecting point at Batson.

Drilling Operations Are Being Rushed.

The field still presents a most unique condition to the conservative operator, for up to the present time there has not been to exceed 80 barrels of oil produced; nevertheless activity prevails in drilling operations such as took the Batson field sixty days to reach after the bringing in of the first Batson gusher. It is safe to say that within the next fortnight fifty wells will be drilling, provided machinery can be found to commence operations.

Pipe Line to Houston for Fuel Consumers.

One of the most important projects on hand is the building of a pipe line to Houston, through which it is expected to supply local consumers of fuel oil and also provide an outlet independent of the Beaumont connections for oil to be shipped by rail or steamer. It is understood that this Houston pipe-line proposition is being handled by some of Houston's most influential moneyed men who are preparing to push the pipe line to completion at a very early date.

The Oil Investors Journal man spent the day at Humble recently and talked with the operators concerning their hopes for the future of the field. He did not find a man who was wishing for a gusher. "What I should like to see," said one, "is a good pumping field with wells producing from 100 to 300 barrels a day, and no gushers. The man who wants a gusher is the fellow who has bought a few square feet of land at high-cotton prices and who hopes to unload on the next fool. A gusher field at Humble, coming on top of the immense production of fuel oil at Jennings, will demoralize the business in the older Texas fields, and there is not a single oil operator working in the Humble field who is not interested in one or several of the other fields."

REVIEW OF OPERATIONS IN THE TEXAS-LOUISIANA DISTRICTS —CRUDE-OIL MARKET.

Reports on the movement of Texas oil in November, complete with the exception of a few days, indicate a falling off of fully 300,000 barrels, compared with the October record.

In October the movement from Port Arthur and Sabine amounted to 837,937 barrels, and in September it was 856,488 barrels. Up to November 28 the movement from both ports had amounted to only 563,342 barrels of crude and refined. This would indicate a decrease of more than 200,000 barrels, compared with the previous month. A similar falling off has been noted in the rail shipments, and it is altogether probable that complete reports for the month will show that the movement was 300,000 barrels less in November than in October. The decrease in the shipment of crude from Port Arthur and Sabine is most marked. Up to the 28th of November the crude shipments from both ports amounted to only 388,556 barrels. Refinery products, to the amount of 174,786 barrels were shipped in the same period, the bulk of these shipments being from the Gulf plant at Port Arthur.

Stocks of Texas Crude Are Low.

Stocks of crude oil are lower in Texas today than they have been at any time in eighteen months. Conservative estimates place the amount of oil in storage at 7,000,000 barrels, and others make it as low as 6,000,000 barrels. The 3,000,000 barrels in storage at Jennings is available for the fuel oil trade, and it is from Jennings that the fuel oil supply will be obtained, unless the Humble field develops a lighter product than is now being obtained in southeast Texas, in which case the output of the older pools will not be in such demand for refining purposes as it now is.

Prices Reach a Lower Level.

Prospects at Humble and an oversupply at Jennings have caused the crude market to weaken. On October 25 the Texas Company posted 39 cents for Sour Lake and Saratoga and 37 cents for Batson. On November 21 this company posted 34 cents for Sour Lake and Saratoga and 32 cents for Batson. This was followed by a cut of three cents on November 25 and another cut, this time of one cent, on November 28. The Guffey Company on November 30 wos offering 29 for Batson, 31 for Sour Lake and 35 for Beaumont oil. These prices are for credit balances in the pipe lines. Contracts are being made from time to time by the Security and Guffey Companies at better prices than those posted for credit balances. Usually these contracts are for thirty days and the purchasing company takes the oil at the well. As late as the 28th the Security Company made a thirty-day contract for light oil at Batson at 35 cents a barrel.

Any further reductions in the price will certainly go hard with producers in the older fields, as many of them are operating on a very narrow margin at prevailing prices. It will also be the means of retarding development and drilling operations.

Jennings Production Grows Unwieldy.

Four new gushers at Jennings have swelled the production of that field to a point which makes it a problem to provide storage for the oil. The largest of all the Jennings gushers, the Wilkins Company's No. 2, came in on November 20, and filled a 1,000-barrel settling tank in fifty-nine minutes. This indicates a capacity of 20,000 to 22,000 barrels a day. It has been necessary on account of lack of complete facilities for handling the well's full capacity to choke it down to 15,000 barrels. This is the second well drilled by the Wilkins Company. The Heywood Oil Company of Beaumont furnished the money to drill the well, receiving in return a large interest in the output. The first well drilled by the Wilkins Company did not develop gushing propensities and is now being deepened.

The other new wells are the Sharp Bros. No. 1 on the Home Oil Company sublease out of the Arnaudet; the Lovegrove and McIntosh No. 1 on the West Virginia Oil Company's sublease out of the Arnaudet and the Shultz-Congleton No. 1 on the Arnaudet. The Sharp well is in a part of the field that had been drilled before without sensational results. By going deeper, Sharp Bros. brought in a 7,000-barrel gusher. Lovegrove and McIntosh's well is good for about the same production. It is located near the West Virginia No. 1, which came in wild, wrecking the derrick and making an upheaval much after the style of a young volcano. The Shultz-

Congleton well came in strong, with an estimated capacity of 8,000 barrels, but choked up.

Summary of Production.

In the last two weeks, the production of the field has gone above 75,000 barrels a day on several occasions. With the Wilkins well choked down and the Shultz-Congleton not producing, the daily output is divided as follows:

The Wilkins Company (and Heywood Oil Company), one well, 15,000 barrels.

Heywood Oil Company, of Beaumont, two wells, 14,000 barrels.

Bass & Benckenstein, three wells, 12,000 barrels.

Morse Oil Company, two wells, 7,000 barrels.

Jim Tierce, two wells, 8,000 barrels.

Lovegrove and McIntosh, one well, 7,000 barrels.

Sharp Bros., one well, 7,000 barrels.

Producers'-Latreille, one well, 1,000 barrels.

Total, 71,000 barrels.

The foregoing does not take into account the pumping wells, which are producing about 1,800 barrels a day.

Drilling operations have been more active since the writ of injunction issued against the three new locations on the Latreille forty acres was permanently dissolved. Accidents have occurred at the two wells drilling by John Champion on the Latreille tract. In one case he twisted off his pipe, and in the other he dropped a string of four-inch pipe in the hole.

Wood Blown up From a Depth of 1,650 Feet.

A blow-out in the Jennings-Heywood Syndicate's No. 3 well has delayed operations considerably at this hole. Portions of the trunk of a tree, pieces of rock and quantities of mud and sand were blown out of the well from a depth of 1,650 feet. The wood that was thrown out resembles willow. The hole will be cleaned out and an effort will be made to finish it.

The Teter No. 2 has been given several tests, but has yet to be successfully brought in. Compressed air has been tried in it in an attempt to blow it in. The screen is being set in the Morse No. 9, with every indication of a good well. The Morse gushers were among the first to come in and are still flowing. The pipe in the Ladies' Oil Company well was twisted off and efforts to get it out have failed so far.

Producers' Well Has Been Flowing Four Months.

On December 4 it will have been four months since the Producers'-Latreille No. 1 came in a gusher. When the Wilkins No. 2 started flowing the Producers'-Latreille No. 1 stopped, but it did not stay idle long, and is now doing business at the old stand, but at a somewhat diminished rate. The Producers'-Latreille No. 4, near the No. 1, is about ready to come in.

Preparing to Drill in the Old Field.

In the older part of the field several drillers are preparing to begin work with the idea of reclaiming old wells and testing the territory for the deeper sand, which has been found on the Arnaudet tract. Lane and Bowler will drill the old Southern No. 2—one of the first wells in the field—to the 1,950-foot level. They have also leased two acres out of the Jennings Oil Company's forty-acre lease and will put down a new well. Keoughan and Noble have a derrick up on the Northern Oil Company's sublease and will drill a well. The wells heretofore completed on this sub-lease have been pumpers.

Three Million Barrels in Storage.

It is estimated that the amount of oil now in storage at Jennings—nearly all of which is in open ground reservoirs—is in excess of 3,000,000 barrels. The Wilkins Company has started work on 100,000 barrels of earthen storage, and the Texas Company and Crowley Oil & Mineral Company have arranged to build additional reservoirs. Bass & Benckenstein are purchasing more land for storage.

Recent Large Sales of Jennings Crude.

Prices at Jennings range from 20 cents to 30 cents on the cars. One lot of 50,000 barrels was bought by the Guffey Company at 23 cents on the cars. The Heywood Oil Company, through its president, Captain W. C. Tyrrell, closed a contract with the Southern Pacific Company to supply 40,000 barrels a month for twelve months at 40 cents a barrel on board cars. This involves the delivery of 480,000 barrels of oil for a total consideration of $192,000. Since the Heywood Company entered the Jennings field in September it has sold about 750,000 barrels of Jennings oil, and delivered 150,000 barrels.

Shipping 65 to 70 Cars a Day.

Price-cutting among some of the producers has resulted in offers of oil at 15 cents on the field. It costs from 6 to 10 cents to pipe it to the railroad, which affords the only outlet for any considerable quantity. Shipments by rail during the past two weeks from the three loading points on the Southern Pacific, namely, Egan, Mermentau and Jennings, have been at the rate of 65 to 70 cars a day, representing from 13,000 to 16,000 barrels a day.

Heretofore the Southern Pacific has handled more oil from Sour Lake than from any other one point, but it is now moving a greater quantity of Jennings oil than it is taking from Sour Lake. This applies to all shipments, both commercial and for company use.

Jennings Oil Going as Far West as El Paso.

Large quantities of Jennings oil are being shipped to Texas points for fuel use. On account of the declining production of the Texas pools, the refineries are getting a greater percentage of the production of these pools than they have usually obtained. The shipments of Texas crude from Port Arthur and Sabine have decreased to a marked extent, and the refineries are no doubt husbanding their stocks of the better grade of Texas crude for their own use. It is asserted by officials of the refineries that Jennings crude, while of lighter gravity than the ordinary Texas product, is not as suitable for refining purposes, hence the refineries have made little effort to get hold of the Jennings production, preferring to allow it to replace the Texas crude in supplying the fuel oil demand. Shipments of Jennings oil are going as far as El Paso, Texas, nearly 1,000 miles. The Southern Pacific brings oil from California to supply its engines on the El Paso division with fuel.

Matagorda Production on the Increase.

Production in the Matagorda or Big Hill field is constantly being increased by the bringing in of new wells. On November 28 the producing wells were enumerated as follows: T. W. Lane, Nos. 3 and 4, about 1,450 barrels; Big Hill Oil & Fuel Company, Nos. 3 and 4, about 1,850 barrels; Langham & Griffith, No. 2, about 450 barrels. Total estimated production, 3,750 barrels. This is not the capacity of the field, as the McCallup Bros. No. 1, which happened to be out of commission on the day this summary was prepared, is good for 700 to 800 barrels, and the Johnson and Underwood well, which was also out of commission, made 400 barrels for a time. Lane operates his wells with steam heads. The others are operated with standard rigs. The Big Hill Oil & Fuel Company has completed its No. 5 and at last accounts it was being rigged to pump. It gives promise of being as good as the other wells operated by this company. The Big Hill Oil & Fuel Company's No. 6 is drilling; also the Higgins-Heywood Oil Companies' No. 2, the Langham and Griffith No. 4, the McCallup and Miller No. 1, and two others. Two four-inch pipe lines convey the oil to the railroad, where shipments of eight to twelve cars a day are being made. The Matagorda crude is an excellent fuel oil. It tests 19.5 gravity, Baume. The producing sand is penetrated at about 840 feet.

SHIPMENTS OF OIL FROM PORT ARTHUR

DATE	RIG	NAME OF VESSEL	LOADED BY	CONSIGNEE	DESTINATION	GRADE	Quantity in Barrels
Nov.							
11	S. S.	Atlas	Texas Co.	Standard Oil Co.	Constable Hk.	Crude	14,473
14	"	Piqua	Gulf Ref. Co	Gulf Ref. Co.	Mexico City, Mex.	Lubr. Oil	60
16	Barge	Shenango	" " "	" "	Gretna, La.	Crude	26,521
18	S. S.	Waverly	" " "	" "	Liverpool, Eng.	Asphalt	42
18	"	Northwestern	Texas Co.	Standard Oil Co.	Constable Hk.	Crude	21,882
19	"	Winifred	Gulf Ref. Co.	Gulf Ref. Co.	Gretna, La.	Crude	10,529
19	"	"	" " "	" " "	" "	Reduced C.	10,424
19	"	"	" " "	" " "	" "	Lubr Oil	50
19	Barge	Allegheny	" " "	" " "	" "	Black	654
19	"	"	" " "	" " "	" "	Lubricants	582
19	"	"	" " "	" " "	" "	Kerosene	1,301
19	"	"	" " "	" " "	" "	Gasoline	584
21	S. S.	J. M. Guffey	" " "	" " "	Havana	Crude	20,373
22	"	Lansing	Texas Co.	Standard Oil Co.	Constable Hk.	Crude	45,396
24	Barge	Clark's No. 3	Nat. Oil & P. L. Co.	R. P. Clark & Co.	Galveston	Crude	9,281
25	"	Shenango	Gulf Ref. Co.	Gulf Ref. Co.	Gretna, La.	Crude	12,929
25	"	"	" " "	" " "	" "	Reduced C.	12,718
29	S. S.	Winifred	" " "	" " "	Bayonne, N. J.	Solar	17,872
29	"	"	" " "	" " "	" "	Kerosene	96
26	"	"	" " "	" " "	" "	Lubr. Oil	500
29	"	"	" " "	" " "	" "	Asph. Oil	1,442
29	"	Larimer	" " "	" " "	Gibson's Pt.	Asphalt	432
29	"	"	" " "	" " "	" "	Solar	15,284
29	"	"	" " "	" " "	" "	Asphalt	2,093
29	"	"	" " "	" " "	" "	Crude	12,977
29	Barge	Conemaugh	" " "	" " "	Baltimore	Crude	16,452
29	S. S.	E. L. Drake	Texas Co.	Standard Oil Co.	Constable Hk.	Crude	38,917

TOTAL (Barrels) 293,966
Previous Shipments in November 162,607
Total in Nov. to 29th 456,573
Total for the year to same date 7,267,382

SHIPMENTS OF OIL FROM SABINE

DATE	RIG	NAME OF VESSEL	LOADED BY	CONSIGNEE	DESTINATION	GRADE	Quantity in Barrels
Nov.							
12	Barge	S. O. C. O. No. 93	Security	Standard	New York	Crude	26,593
13	S. S.	Roma	Sun P. L. Co.	Sun Co.	Marcus Hk.	"	26,723
18	S. S.	Washtenaw	Sun P. L. Co.	Sun Co.	Marcus Hk.	"	28,070
22	S. S.	Toledo	Sun P. L. Co.	Sun Co.	Marcus Hk.	Crude	20,669

TOTAL (Barrels) 102,055
Previous Shipments in November 4,714
Total in Nov. to 28th 106 769
Total for the year to same date 2,834,904

Situation in Older Texas Districts Unchanged.

The situation in the Spindletop, Sour Lake and Saratoga fields has not been altered by any new development of importance. At Saratoga Ed. Prather brought in a well on the B. B. B. & C. tract, which is making about 7,000 barrels of fluid, all but 50 to 100 barrels of which is salt water. Mr. Prather expects to bring in an oil well before the end of the week. The English Company got a 500-barrel well at Saratoga last week, and if drilling operations, now under way, result favorably, the production of the field will be largely increased by the end of December. It is now put at 2,500 barrels. Batson has shown no improvement in gross production, and an estimate of 9,000 barrels a day is probably not far from the correct figure.

Sour Lake has been attracting attention on account of the deep sand developed on the Oliver farm, and it is understood that several operators will try for this sand. The Sharp well on the Oliver is reported to be making 2,000 barrels with the aid of compressed air. The field's production is put at 16,000 barrels.

New production at Spindletop does not overcome the decline that is constantly going on in the older parts of the hill. Ten wells that made 24,000 barrels in the month of July will not show a production of 10,000 for November. This is a severe falling off, considering the short space of time which has intervened. The field's production is put at 4,000 to 4,500 barrels.

Detailed Report of Rail Shipments.

Shipments of oil by rail are reported as follows:

Southern Pacific—From Sour Lake, November 1 to 26, inclusive (24th missing), 810 cars. From Gladys, November 1 to 27, inclusive, 99 cars. No shipments from the Beaumont rack. Jennings oil: From Mermentau, November 1 to 22, inclusive, 636 cars. From Jennings, November 1 to 26, inclusive, 498 cars. From Egan, November 1 to 25, inclusive, 81 cars.

Santa Fe—From Saratoga, month of October, 450 cars; November 1 to 29, inclusive, 331 cars company oil, 65 cars commercial oil; total, 396 cars. From Beaumont, November 1 to 29, inclusive, 34 cars commercial oil.

Kansas City Southern—From Security Refinery (refined oil), November 1 to 28, inclusive, 166 cars. From Texas Company's loading rack (crude), November 1 to 28, inclusive, 71 cars. From Spindletop (U. O. & R. Co.), November 1 to 28, inclusive, 7 cars refined, 11 cars crude. Total, 173 cars refined, 88 cars crude.

Howard Bayne, in charge of the New York office of the Security Oil Company, has been in Beaumont for a week. Mr. Bayne visited the Humble field this week.

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HOLLAND S. REAVIS, Editor and Manager.

CHANGE IN SUBSCRIPTION AND ADVERTISING RATES JANUARY 1, 1905.

On and after January 1, 1905, the subscription price of this paper will be two dollars a year. Subscriptions may be renewed between now and December 31 at the old rate, one dollar a year. Under the new rate, the cost of single copies will be ten cents. A new schedule of advertising rates will also go into effect on January 1. Contracts entered into before that date will be made at the prevailing rates, but no contract will be made for a longer period than twelve months.

The Landslide Oil Company has been incorporated with $50,000 authorized capital to operate at Humble, with headquarters at Houston. The incorporators are W. T. Campbell, W. B. Sharp, J. D. Crawford, H. Masterson and E. R. Spotts. The company took its name from the recent event in political circles in which T. Roosevelt was the slider and A. B. Parker the slidden.

People in Southeast Texas have forgotten all about the election and the Japanese war. The question now is: "What's the news from Humble?"

If Humble produces oil that the Beaumont and Port Arthur refineries need in their business the pipe line systems will be extended from Batson to the new district as quickly as men can do the work. It looks now as if the refineries will want the Humble oil. A pipe line to Houston will be a good proposition for fuel users of the Bayou City if they can get its value back in a few months, but they must not forget that Southeast Texas oil pools are comparatively short-lived and that they may have to compete with the Beaumont pipe lines whenever the production falls off as it has at Batson and Sour Lake. The Houston East & West Texas Railroad may block the pipe line project by making a train load rate that will be cheap enough for all concerned. These remarks being based, of course, upon the assumption that Humble is to be a big field.

MOVING JENNINGS OIL TO BEAUMONT IN TRAINLOADS.

If the suggestion had been made six months ago that Jennings oil would be shipped into Beaumont in trainload lots before the end of the year it would not have been taken seriously in Texas. Yet this very thing has come to pass and is now an every-day occurrence. Six months ago Jennings was not producing more than 3,000 barrels a day. Today the production is estimated at from 60,000 to 70,000 barrels a day. The coming in of big wells in the Louisiana field in August and September made it necessary to provide facilities for moving the product, and a pipe line to Beaumont was talked of, but the Southern Pacific Railroad removed all present prospects of such a line by making a reduction in freight rates on trainload lots of oil, offering a cheaper method of transportation than the usual pipe line charge.

The reduction in rates came early in October, and the first solid trainload of Jennings oil was shipped on October 18 by the J. M. Abbott Oil Company of Beaumont. On the opposite page is an illustration, made from a photograph, showing this first train of interstate crude as it appeared in the Southern Pacific yards at Jennings before it started for Beaumont. It consisted of twenty-two cars, varying in capacity from 170 to 300 barrels each. The J. M. Abbott Company has maintained regular shipments in trainloads, and has moved more oil from Jennings than any other one concern. This company has been, and continues to be, one of the heaviest shippers of Texas oil. It ships from Sour Lake, Beaumont and Saratoga, and is prepared to load vessels for coastwise and foreign trade.

J. M. Abbott, president of the J. M. Abbott Oil Company, was with the Southern Pacific Company for twenty-five years. His experience in the railroad business has served him in good stead in building up the Abbott Company's trade. Since the first of the present year the Abbott Company has sold the Southern Pacific Company more than a quarter of a million barrels of crude oil for use as fuel on its locomotives in Texas and Louisiana.

The vice-president of the Abbott Company, Charles D. Hill, is widely known in Louisiana and Texas, through his association with various large compress enterprises.

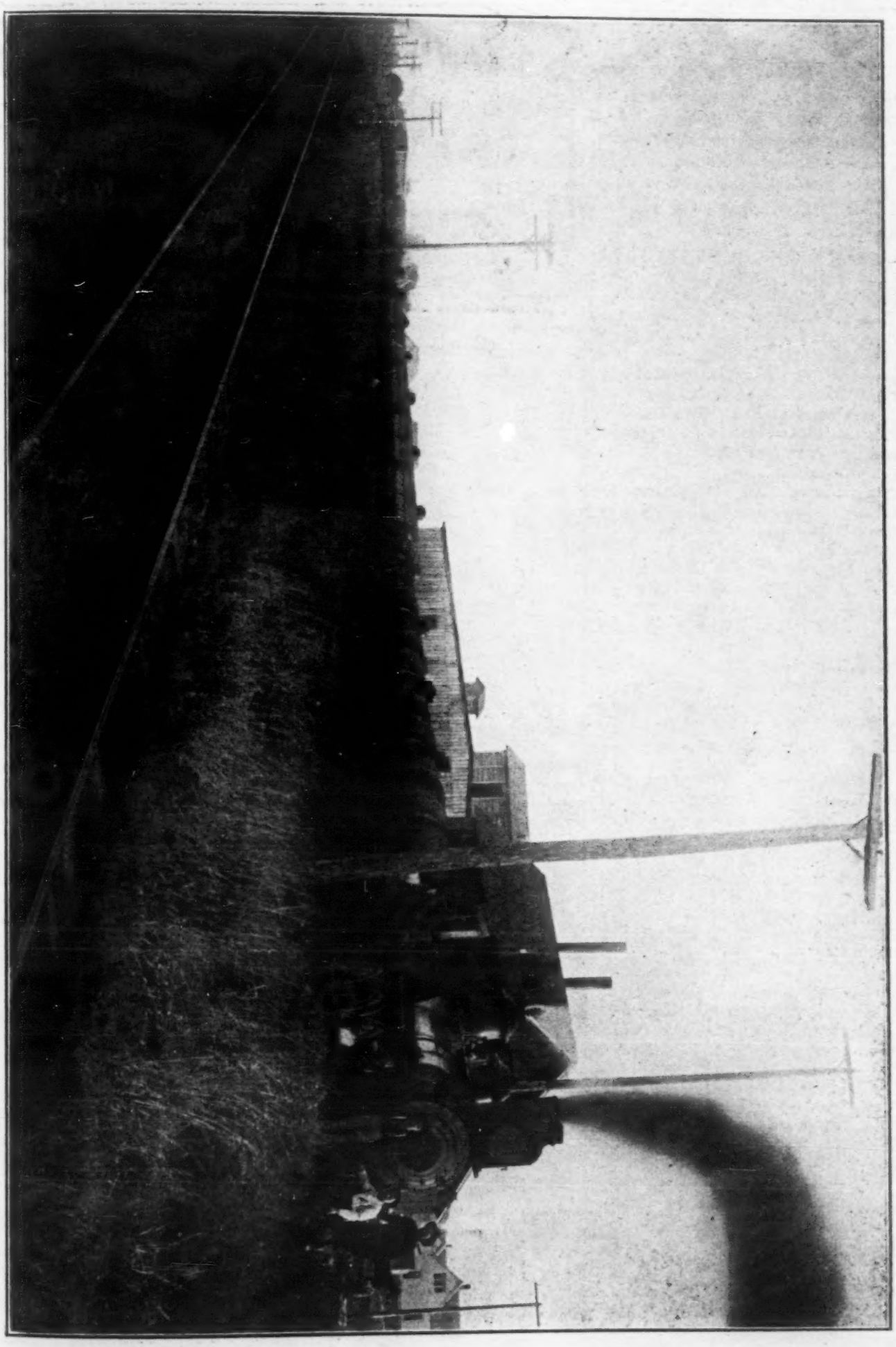
J. M. Abbott, Jr., secretary and treasurer of the company, occupies a responsible position with the Gulf National Bank, and although younger than most men in such places, has developed business acumen that might be envied by an older head.

In the oil business, as in every other, it is the fellow who can deliver the goods that gets the business. The Abbott Company apparently has delivered the goods, because it has enjoyed a growing trade since it was established by Mr. Abbott, nearly two years ago.

HEYWOOD OIL COMPANY BOOKS HEAVY SALES OF JENNINGS OIL.

Through its interest in the new Wilkins well, the Heywood Oil Company of Beaumont becomes the heaviest producer of oil in the Jennings field. Captain W. C. Tyrrell, president of the Heywood Oil Company, who is recognized as one of the shrewdest operators in the Texas-Louisiana district, began selling oil, in large and small lots, at the same time that he started drilling on the Hoywood Company's first well at Jennings. In this way he got the benefit, for his company, of the higher price prevailing before production had reached its present immense figure. It is stated that the Heywood Oil Company has booked more sales of Jennings oil in the last three months than any other company operating at Jennings. The Heywood Company is loading trainloads of Jennings crude every day, and has sold some big lots to the J. M. Abbott Oil Company, which was the first concern to ship a solid trainload, under the new interstate rate of 9.7 cents a barrel, from Jennings to Beaumont. The oil was furnished by the Heywood Company, and was its first delivery on contract with the J. M. Abbott Company. The picture on the opposite page was taken in the Southern Pacific yards at Jennings, and shows the first trainload before it started for Beaumont.

In addition to its production at Jennings, the Heywood Company has wells at Spindletop, Sour Lake and Batson. It was among the first to enter these fields and has been uniformly successful in all its operations—something that may be attributed to the excellent management which Captain Tyrrell has given the company.



FIRST TRAIN LOAD OF JENNINGS OIL SHIPPED TO BEAUMONT.

Twenty-two cars of Louisiana crude consigned by the J. M. Abbott Oil Company, under the new interstate rate, to the Sun Pipe line at Beaumont (Gladys Station) on October 18, 1904.

GENERAL MILES AND PARTY IN THE OIL AND RICE BELT OF TEXAS.

A distinguished party of Northern and Eastern capitalists, including General Nelson A. Miles and many others of national reputation, under the chaperonage of Burton D. Hurd and D. E. Ford, of the American Rice Cereal Company, visited the rice and oil belt of Texas last week. The party, numbering seventy-five, traveled in a special train consisting of four Pullman sleepers and a dining car.

At Beaumont E. C. Taylor, secretary of the Heywood Oil Company, accompanied by his wife, joined the party, which afterwards visited Orange, Houston, Galveston, Bay City, Matagorda, and San Antonio before returning North. Although the party was brought down here to look over the large canal and rice interests of the American Rice Cereal Company in this section, it was also taken to several places of interest en route. At Orange, the "Gate City," a fierce fight between a Texas badger and a bulldog was witnessed; at Galveston the party was given a trip of ten miles out on the Gulf of Mexico in the forenoon, and in the afternoon was taken in hand by the officials of the Chamber of Commerce and shown the seawall and the city. At Matagorda one day was given over to duck and geese hunting, the game being very plentiful.

A number of Pennsylvania and Ohio men of means in the party were much interested in the oil and gas lands, and kept Mr. Taylor busy answering questions regarding the oil fields, the immense production of oil and the disposal of same, and were surprised at the figures shown them.

General Miles, who is a director of the Rice Company and has other interests in this section, seems to keep himself well posted on the oil situation. During the trip every one spoke of the enormous and varied resources of the country seen on the trip through the Lone Star State and many signified their intention to return later. Brigadier General Jesse M. Lee and Ex-Governor Hogg met the party en route.

W. L. Mellon, of Pittsburg, Pa., vice-president of the J. M. Guffey Petroleum Company, has been in Beaumont since the middle of November.

Arnold Schlaet, of New York, vice-president of the Texas Company, is in Beaumont.

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References:-German American Savings Bank. First National Bank. Broadway Bank & Trust Co. All of Los Angeles, California

C. H. Markham, formerly executive head of the Harriman lines on the Pacific coast, has entered actively upon his work as general manager of the J. M. Guffey Petroleum Company, with headquarters at Beaumont. On the evening of November 25 Mr. Markham was the guest of honor at a dinner arranged by D. Woodhead, secretary of the Beaumont Chamber of Commerce. Leading business and professional men of Beaumont were among the guests.

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For new subscriptions and renewals to the JOURNAL received before January 1, 1905, the price of BOTH the JOURNAL and FARM PROGRESS, will be only $1.00 a year. After that on acbount of increase in price of the JOURNAL, $2.00. Free sample copies of FARM PROGRESS will be sent on application to THE REPUBLIC, St. Louis, Mo.

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OFFICE: BEAUMONT, TEXAS

W. E. Brice has returned from Iowa and will engage actively in the development of his Humble holdings.

C. L. Wallis, manager of the Higgins Oil & Fuel Company, has been in the Clay County district this week.

The Mitchell well has a good chance to be one of the first producers at Humble. It is located near the Sharp well and is now at the interesting stage. Mr. Mitchell states that he hopes to finish his well in the 900-foot sand.

It is already probable that Governor Folk will be put forward not only by Missouri, but by many other states, as a candidate for the democratic nomination for the presidency four years hence.—Harper's Weekly.

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